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Abul Nada Determined to
Defeat Radicals

NJA-1120

5 October 1954

Amman

Approx 1 October 1954

C-3

6 October 1954

NOTE:

1. Prime Minister Tawfiq Abul Nada recently told former deputy Prime Minister Said Murti that he would not permit radical elements, namely the Ba'athists, Tahrir, and Communist Parties to win a single seat in the forthcoming Parliamentary elections scheduled for 16 October 1954.

Station Comment:

NOTE: was reminded that the "radical" elements have so far had complete freedom in electioneering. **NOTE:** agreed, saying that this was part of Abul Nada's plan to make the election appear to be completely honest, legal, and democratic. **NOTE:** stated that while Abul Nada may allow one or two of the "radicals" to win for the same reason (i.e. to give the election some semblance of honesty) the Government will in fact step in at the last minute and rig the elections by means previously described; corruption of election officials, falsification of ballots, re-voting of inadequately or inaccurately registered voters, the voting of Arab Legion contingents in critical areas and mis-informing illiterate voters as to how the ballots should be marked.

The above is in line with remarks recently made by Abul Nada's "hatchet man" Sa'ad Juma'a. Juma'a has stated before and since his recent appointment as Under Secretary of Interior that "we are going to stop these people" (Communists and ultra-Nationalist Ba'athists and Tahrir adherents).

Field Note:

See Cover Sheet.

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